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/Lynne M. Milliot/

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Uzi Lev-Ami et al.

Application No. 09/935,213

Confirmation No. 9729

Filed: 22 August 2001

Title: **Method and Apparatus for Monitoring
Host to Tool Communications**

Group Art Unit: 2143

Examiner: Joseph E. AVELLINO

CUSTOMER NO.: 22470

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Interview Summary

Sir:

Applicants requested and were granted a telephonic and WebEx interview with Examiner Avellino on **Wednesday, 27 July 2006**, starting at **9:30 a.m. EDT**. This document summarizes the interview.

Prior to the interview, we submitted a proposed agenda, the substance of which is reproduced below:

"The spirit of this interview is to advance the case towards allowance. The last correspondence in this case was the Office Action mailed 5 April 2006. Applicants would like to discuss with the Examiner the best way to advance the case towards allowance. Applicants are prepared to offer amendments after discussion of any suggestions that the Examiner may make.

During the interview, we hope to begin with the technology disclosed and also discuss:

1) The technical content of the disclosure and the Coss-George-Walker combination. Much of the ground to be covered is laid out in the prior

response to office action, which included the George and Walker reference. The current office action did not respond to our discussion of those references, instead declaring the discussion moot, even though the same references were cited again.

2) Claims 1, 16 and 22, including:

- a) providing a listening device to monitor a wired communications channel between a host and tool; and
- b) recording report and report trigger definitions sent by the host to the tool; and
- c) matching reports to report definitions and generating a context-insensitive report from context-sensitive data.

Regarding providing a listening advice, The Examiner's attention is directed to the amended specification paragraph [0012], submitted 21 July 2005, which correctly distinguishes between software running on a removable listening device and software running on a host.

In this art, the terms "context-sensitive" and "context-insensitive" have meaning from the wording of the claims in which they are used, read in light of the specification, in further view of U.S. Patent No. 7,072,985, which issued from the application incorporated by reference, Applic. No. 09/847,937. The Examiner's proposed interpretation of "context-insensitive" (OA at 3) is offered without reference to claim wording, the specification or the art. The notion that a context-insensitive report generated from context-sensitive data would mean a report "not pertaining to the entity from which it was sent" suggests a misunderstanding of this disclosure."

During the interview, we largely followed the agenda. We began with a technology tutorial, looking at the application the references cited.

We referred to FIGS. 2A, C & D for alternative configurations of a removable listening device. We offered an analogy between an optical isolator in an electrical circuit and a removable listening device in a software messaging channel.

Our view of Coss Jr was that it disclosed a variation on a monolithic controller that tells the tool what report to generate and waits to receive the report. The Examiner suggested distinguishing Coss Jr in combination with the probe on the basis that there is no suggestion to move part of the functions from Coss Jr onto the probe and leave the remaining functions on the incumbent controller.

We also discussed the meaning of context sensitive and context insensitive, as those terms have been used in the recently issued U.S. Patent No. 7,072,985.

Thanks to the Examiner for his time and attention to this technology. A response to office action is being submitted along with this summary of interview.

The undersigned can ordinarily be reached at his office at (650) 712-0340 from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. PST, Monday through Friday, and can be reached at his cell phone at (415) 902-6112 most other times.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 4 August 2006

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